

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
UTILITY DIVISION
AGENDA NO. 01-08-21**

Date Published: August 16, 2001
For Work Week Commencing: August 20, 2001
Business Meeting: August 21, 2001, 9:00 a.m.

General Introduction This agenda is the Commission's Utility Division agenda for the work week designated. In the later part of each week (generally, Thursday by 2:00 p.m.) prior to the work week to which an agenda pertains, the agenda is posted on the public information bulletin board at the Commission offices, deposited in the mail directed to all persons who have properly requested notice by mail, emailed to all persons who have properly requested notice by email, and posted to the Public Service Commission's worldwide web site located at <http://www.psc.state.mt.us>.

Place of Meetings All meetings are held at the Commission offices, 1701 Prospect Avenue, Helena, Montana, unless otherwise noted.

Inquiries General inquiries concerning this Utility Division agenda and subscribing to notice by mail may be made to Dennis Crawford at (406) 444-6182. He may refer inquiries to another person within the agency.

Accommodation for Persons with Disabilities Anyone needing an accommodation for physical, hearing, or sight impairment in order to attend a scheduled meeting should contact the Commission secretary at (406) 444-6199 sufficiently prior to the meeting to allow accommodations to be made.

Work Sessions All items identified below are for Commission discussion or action on the day designated (Dave).

1. D2001.3.30 – Implementation of HB 645 – Electrical Energy Pool – Discuss/Act on Supplemental Order implementing demand exchange (8/21/01)
2. FCC on rural ETC disaggregation and targeting – preliminary discussion, information (8/21/01)
3. D2001.8.104 – CenturyTel – special recovery of line extension costs to Star Meadows, Whitefish- preliminary discussion of application (8/21/01)
4. D2000.2.26 – American Internet/Innovative Calling – PSC Cramming Complaint – discuss dismissal of complaint (8/21/01)
5. D2001.6.76 – Notice of Inquiry (NOI): Qwest Rate Rebalancing – Discuss NOI comments and determine Commission Action regarding Rate Rebalancing (8/23/01)

Weekly Scheduling Meeting – Will be held at 8:45 a.m. on the day of the Business Meeting

Action Items All items identified below are for action at the Commission business meeting.

1. MDU Resources Group, Inc. DOCKET NO. D2001.7.94 (Eric)

On July 24, 2001, MDU Resources Group, Inc., filed an application seeking authorization to issue and sell up to an additional 2,600,000 shares of Common Stock, par value of \$1.00 per share in connection with the Company's 401(k) Retirement Plan. The Plan is the new name of two merged 401 (k) plans of the Applicant, namely the Tax Deferred Compensation Plan for non-bargaining unit employees (the "Savings Plan") and the Tax Deferred Compensation Plan for Collective Bargaining Unit Employees (the "Bargaining Unit Plan"). The merger of the Bargaining Unit Plan with and into the Savings Plan and the new name of the Plan were effective January 1, 1999. A default order has been drafted.

Notice Items All items identified below are noticed for public participation purposes. Unless otherwise stated in the text of the notice, the items will be action items on the next following agenda or a subsequent agenda and participation may be had by submitting written comments to the Public Service Commission, 1701 Prospect Avenue, P.O. Box 202601, Helena, Montana, 59620-2601, within 5 calendar days following publication of this agenda. Public comments on a noticed matter may also be submitted within the required time through the PSC's web-based comment form at <http://psc.state.mt.us/PublicComment/PublicComment.htm>. Comments should reference the docket number of the matter.

1. QWEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC. Docket N2001.8.107 (Leroy)

On August 14, 2001, QWEST Communications, Inc, filed Tariff Transmittal 01-26 "Suspension of Service Nonrecurring Charge." Under the existing tariff, when a residence or business customer suspends all services, the suspension of the service nonrecurring charge of \$14.94 for residence and \$30.10 for business is assessed when the service is suspended. Under the proposed tariff, the charge would be assessed when the service is restored. This makes the Montana tariff consistent with the other Quest states in the manner in which the charge is applied.

There is no change in the nonrecurring charge. Qwest is requesting a September 4, 2001 effective date for this tariff.

Information Items All items identified below are for information only.

Tentative Action Items for Agenda 01-08-28

New Filings Received in Past Week

D2001.8.105 – Qwest Corporation – Qwest/Intrado interconnection agreement
D2001.8.106 – Montana-Dakota Utilities – MDU Gas Tracker
N2001.8.107 – Qwest Corporation – Tariff trans 01-26 Suspension of Service
Nonrecurring Charge